

WTA Young Professionals Award for outstanding achievements in the fields of building preservation and monument conservation

Participation conditions
Award purpose The International Association for Science and Technology of Building Maintenance and Monument Preservation (WTA International) awards every year on the occasion of the WTA Days the WTA Young Professionals Award (WTA-YPA) for outstanding achievements in the fields of building preservation and monument conservation to young professionals aged up to 35 years. The WTA-YPA replaces the former WTA Prize, which was awarded until 2021. WTA International invites submissions which creatively and with an innovative approach address one or more of the topics of building preservation and monument conservation and contribute to their sustainable development. The work should be directly related to the topics of WTA or the results must be transferable to the WTA field of interests. The WTA-YPA is awarded annually in three categories: • WTA-YPA Practical for practical work, • WTA-YPA Educational for Bachelor and Master theses and • WTA-YPA Scientific for doctoral and research theses. The WTA International reserves the right - in case of insufficient quality of the submissions - not to award a prize in individual categories.
Award description The WTA-YPA is awarded annually during the WTA Days. It consists of: • The WTA trophy, • Award money 500 EUR, • Membership in the WTA for two years (incl. subscription to Bausubstanz or an equivalent professional journal) and • Reimbursement of participation costs in the WTA Days (travel, accommodation and participation fee). The award winner will be given the opportunity to present the most important results of his/her work during the award ceremony. In addition, there is the possibility of publishing an article in Bausubstanz or in an equivalent professional journal. A selection of the other submitted WTA-YPA entries will be recognised with a one-year WTA membership and presented at the WTA-Days with the posters created by participants.

Requirements for participation

The WTA-YPA is an open competition. The requirements for participation are:

- a. The following types of work can be submitted for the three categories of the WTA-YPA:
 - WTA-YPA Practical: Final or project theses of a practical construction or restoration training.
 - WTA-YPA Educational: Bachelor's, Master's or diploma theses from all universities and colleges with a relevant subject area.
 - WTA-YPA Scientific: Doctoral theses and research papers from all universities and colleges with a relevant specialisation.
- b. Papers can be submitted that are not older than 18 months at the time of the application deadline (e.g. for the application deadline 31.12.2026, the paper must have been finalised on 01.07.2025 or later). A thesis can only be submitted once for the WTA-YPA.
- c. Submitters must not be older than 35 years of age at the time of the application deadline.
- d. Submissions must be made to the WTA International office by 12:00 (= 11:00 GMT) on 31 December 2026.
- e. Works must be submitted with complete documentation.
- f. The submitted works may be used by WTA International free of charge for event announcements, presentations etc.
- g. WTA International is not obliged to return the works to the applicants.
- h. By participating in the WTA-YPA, the applicants agree that WTA International may provide, without any payment, the name of the winner and photos of the award ceremony to the media.
- i. The jurors and employees of WTA International and all other persons related to or dependent on the jurors or employees of WTA International are excluded from participation in the WTA-YPA.
- j. Any legal action is excluded.

Jury

The jury appointed by WTA International will determine the winner of the award. The jury members are not obliged to justify their decision. The Jury is composed of:

- One member of the Presiding Committee of WTA International,
- One member of the Extended Presiding Committee of WTA International and
- One member of WTA International who is/was active in the field of building practice and who can be freely elected by the joint meeting of the Presidium and the Extended Presidium.

If the number of applications requires it, the jury can be extended by up to 6 additional members from the above-mentioned circles.

Requirements for submission

The following documents are required (by e-mail or on an electronic storage device):

- a. The Work and all accompanying documents in PDF-format.
- b. Fully completed WTA-YPA application form (available on the WTA homepage).
- c. Photo (ID or passport).

- d. Professional CV in PDF-format.
- e. Works in non-English languages must also be documented in English on 5 to 10 pages.
- f. As a summary, a one-page A2 poster in English with at least 1/3 text and 1/3 graphics each in PDF-format should be provided (a template is available on the WTA homepage). The graphics should have a high resolution so that the poster can be printed enlarged to A0 for presentations.

Final clauses

The above participation conditions serve as the only agreement between the participant and WTA International, in particular with regard to the use of all documents submitted by the participant. They supersede any previous agreements, whether conclusive, oral or written.

If any provision of the participation conditions is invalid or unenforceable, or if there is a gap, this shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions. In such a case, the parties shall endeavour to replace the invalid or unenforceable provision with a valid and enforceable provision or, in the case of a missing provision, to agree on a new provision compatible with the intentions of the WTA-YPA.

These participation conditions are subject to German law.

Contact, information and address for submission of application

Questions regarding the WTA-YPA should be addressed to the International Association for Science and Technology of Building Maintenance and Monument Preservation (Wissenschaftlich-Technische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Bauwerkserhaltung und Denkmalpflege International e. V., WTA International) using the contact information below. It should also be used for the submission of WTA-YPA applications.

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